

BILL ANALYSIS

H.B. 3209
By: Alonzo
Culture, Recreation & Tourism
Committee Report (Unamended)

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

Interested parties observe the significant contributions that William C. Velasquez made to enhance the role of Latinos in the American democratic process, including founding the Southwest Voter Registration Education Project. H.B. 3209 seeks to honor his legacy by creating a holiday in observance of his birthday.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution.

ANALYSIS

H.B. 3209 amends the Government Code to designate May 9 as "Willie Velasquez Day" in observance of the birthday of William "Willie" Cardenas Velasquez. The bill authorizes the administrative head of a state agency to allow an employee of the agency to have a day off with pay on Willie Velasquez Day in lieu of any other state holiday that occurs on a weekday, other than a weekday on which an election is held throughout the state, on which the state agency is required to be open but on which the operations of the agency are required to be maintained at only a minimum level. The bill requires each state agency to remain open and conduct the operations of the agency at a minimum level on Willie Velasquez Day. The bill clarifies that the holiday is in lieu of another holiday prescribed by law and that the total number of holidays in a year to which an employee of a state agency is entitled is not changed by the bill's provisions.

EFFECTIVE DATE

September 1, 2013.